Never Sheathe the Sword Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's Fight to the Last!

No. 16,075 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

BOLIVIAN COUP LONG PLANNED, REPORTS BARE

Revolution Broke Out Ahead of Time by Suspension of Party's Organ

WAS SCHEDULED FOR 1944

Fundamental Reasons for Change Pointed Out—U.S. Worried Over Policy

(Special to the Nippon Times)

BUENOS AIRES, December 23.—Though the true motives of the Bolivan coup d'etat are still wrapped in mystery, a United Press dispatch from La Paz dated December 20 states that reliable sources have disclosed that the coup d'etat was being prepared for since some time back and that it was scheduled to be carried out in May, 1944, according to information from Buenos Aires. The coup d'etat however, broke out ahead of time, touched off by the act of the Penaranda Government which ordered the suspension of La Calle, an organ of the national revolutionary party.

Judging also from the fact that Es'enssoro, in his broadcast to the people, bitterly points to the corrupt administration of the former regime and declares that this sad state of the Government reached its worst point with the proclamation of the national peace preservation law, it is believed that that law and the closing of La Calle hastened the arrival of the coup. Among the fundamental reasons for the coup can be pointed out in the following: corruptness in administration, the monopolization by mine owners of profits, the dearth of daily necessities, and the miserable condition of the economic life of the laborers.

Forces Behind Revolution

According to a December 20 report to the local paper La Prensa from Lima, young civil and military officials who belong to the faction of the late President Herman Busch and the National Socialist elements who are leading the anti-Democracy movement in a move to enable Major Elias Belmonte, former Bolivian military attache in Germany, to take power, are aiding the national revolutionary party.

An Associated Press report from Santiago of the same date states that the reason of the coup lies in the December, 1942 strike which broke out among the mine laborers at Catave. Estenssoro, the leader of the coup, during this year's session of the legislature, bitterly attacked the suppressive measures taken by the Penaranda Government and brought about the resignation of the cabinet. For that reason, he had been regarded as an Axis sympathizer, the report declares.

The dispatch, however, is not believed to reflect the general opinion of all the North Americans, but is rather held to be anti-Axis propaganda.

U.S. Circles Concerned

Reports from Washington disclose that informed circles in America are concerned somewhat over the totalitarian leanings of the national revolutionary party but apparently believe that Bolivia will continue to participate in the anti-Axis war efforts. The American State Department and other authoritative circles are refraining from commenting and are merely watching developments.

In Argentina, there are some who are of the opinion that the recent Argentine revolution had some influence in bringing about the Bolivian coup d'etat. The paper, El Cabilde on December 20 declared, "The Bolivian coup d'etat is identical in character to the Argentine revolution," and that "looking at the declaration made by the new Bolivian Government it is clear that it has taken the foreign policy of continuing aid to America because the situation allows it to do nothing else."

Asia's Total War

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 20.—The sensational overthrow of the Bolivian Government today in a neat coup d'etat caused unusual excitement in the Americas, a report from La Paz disclosed.

It is felt here that the revolution was the ultimate manifestation of

(Continued on Page 2)

Notice

Today being Taisho Tenno-Sai, a national holiday, there will be no Evening Edition.

Rites Will Mark Death Anniversary Of Emperor Taisho

Today marks the 17th anniversary of the demise of the Emperor Taisho. The memorial service for the late Emperor, August Father of His Majesty the Emperor, will be solemnized at the sanctuaries in the Imperial Palace compound. Prince Kinteru Sanjo, Chief Court Ritualist, will officiate. He will worship at the sanctuaries for His Imperial Majesty. Count Kinfuji Muromachi, Court Ritualist, will be dispatched to the Tama Mausoleum the same day.

ENEMY TRIES TO WIN WAR BY TERROR RAID

Iguchi Scoffs at Idea of U.S., Britain That Victory Sure by Sacrificing Few Men

Commenting on reports issued by the Associated Press and United Press in regard to the formation of a second front and further operations in the Pacific, Sadao Iguchi, Spokesman of the Board of Information, at the press conference held on Friday, declared that the United States and Britain are again engaging in a war of nerves. "The enemy leaders seem to think," he said, "that they can win the war by fighting a talking war, with the least sacrifice on their part."

The Spokesman quoted a United Press report as saying, "It is revealed that the Anglo-American censors have decided to clamp down on all speculations on the second front. Authorities in London and Washington are openly dissatisfied with the widespread speculation as to where, when and how a second front will be launched and are determined to squash such speculation."

Continuing, Spokesman Iguchi declared that an Associated Press dispatch stated, "Hinting at offensives far mightier and bloodier than any yet undertaken by Anglo-American arms, one of the Government's highest executives predicted that American battle casualties in the next 90 days will be more than triple the total for two years of war. That would push the total of dead, wounded, missing and those taken prisoners, now around 132,000 (note: figures given by the enemy), well past the 500,000 mark. The forecast appeared to contemplate a full scale assault on the European Continent within later weeks and perhaps additional smashes at Japanese strongholds in the Pacific."

Commenting on these reports, the Spokesman asserted that the United States and Britain were thus again engaging in a war of nerves. "If they could actually do what they are talking about, and actually form a second front, why disclose their intentions in advance?," he asked.

Mr. Iguchi stated that these hints were being given merely to cater to the expectations of the Soviet Union and Chungking, who are clamoring respectively for the formation of a second front and a major offensive against Burma. "The enemy seems to think," he declared, "that he can win by fighting a talking war, with the least sacrifice on his part."

During the course of the press conference, Mr. Iguchi also touched upon the one-year lowering of the conscription age. He stated that thousands more of young men at the peak of their physical and mental development will now be enrolled in the fighting forces of the nation, to make still more powerful the already tremendously effective fighting arms of the nation.

The Spokesman also dealt with the losses inflicted to the United States forces off Cape Merkus, New Britain Island. In an extremely conservative estimate made by him, the personnel losses suffered by the enemy forces in their operations off that point, were given as no less than 4,000 since December 21.

Java Begins Riparian Work

Domei

DJAKARTA, December 23.—Improvement work on the Gadjawong River project as well as repair work on the reservoir and irrigation channel at Kota Gedeh, near Jogjakarta, were started last Saturday by more than 2,000 voluntary workers. The first pick-axes were taken up by Sultan Pakoealaman. Jogjakarta, while Japanese officials also joined the voluntary laborers. When completed, this work will provide for 130 more hectares of ricefields.

84TH SESSION OF DIET READY FOR BUSINESS

Imperial Rescript Ordering Its Opening on Sunday Promulgated

BOTH HOUSES ORGANIZE

Prince Kuniyuki Tokugawa Elected Chairman of Whole Committee of Peers

An Imperial Rescript ordering the opening of the 84th session of the Imperial Diet on December 26 was promulgated in the Extra Issue of the Official Gazette on Friday afternoon, the Government having been notified of the formation of the Diet earlier the same day.

The House of Peers on Friday elected Prince Kuniyuki Tokugawa as chairman of the whole committee of the House. Viscount Takamasa Hachijo and Baron Shozo Yabuki were elected respectively as chairman and vice-chairman of the House budget committee.

Both the House of Peers and House of Representatives on Friday elected the chairman and directors of various departments to deliberate upon legislative bills connected with governmental institutions.

The chairmen and directors of the House of Peers departments follow: First Department, Prince Sanetaka Ichijo, chairman, and Count Sanji Kuroda, director; Second Department, Prince Tadashige Shimazu, chairman, and Viscount Jiromaru Ito, director; Third Department, Marquis Moritatsu Hosokawa, chairman, and Zenjiro Horikiri, director; Fourth Department, Prince Nobusuke Takatsukasa, chairman, and Masatsune Ogura, director; Fifth Department, Marquis Sukechika Nakayama, and Baron Ryoitsu Asada, director; Sixth Department, Marquis Shoji Komura, chairman, and Count Yasutsugu Yanagisawa, director; Seventh Department, Marquis Saburo Inouye, chairman, and Viscount Masaaki Hoshina, director; Eighth Department, Marquis Yorisada Tokugawa, chairman, and Baron Kanehide Kimotsuke, director; and Ninth Department, General Baron Shigemoto Oi, chairman, and Dr. Rentaro Mizuno, director.

The chairmen and directors of the House of Representatives departments are: First Department, Giichi Masuda, chairman, and Takeshiro Haneda, director; Second Department, Shichiro Takizawa, chairman, and Masayoshi Morita, director; Third Department, Kojiro Matsukata, chairman, and Heibei Sakaguchi, director; Fourth Department, Seiji Oishi, chairman, and Isaji Tanaka, director; Fifth Department, Hajime Mori, chairman, and Yoshijiro Murasawa, director; Sixth Department, Kaoru Sugamata, chairman, and Takeo Kimura, director; Seventh Department, Matajiro Koizumi, chairman, and Tomoyuki Tabe, director; Eighth Department, Kiroku Oguchi, chairman, and Matazaemon Kitamura, director; and Ninth Department, Torakichi Oshima, chairman, and Shogo Kusumi, director.

12 FOE RAIDERS HIT OVER CANTON AREA

Other Enemy Warplanes Given Direct Hits

Domei

CANTON, December 24.—Intercepting an enemy formation of fighter and bomber planes that appeared over the Canton area at about 4 p.m. yesterday, Japanese Army Wild Eagles, with the aid of land batteries, shot down 11 enemy P-40's (two unconfirmed) and one P-51.

In addition, several enemy bombers were given direct hits and were seen to flee, trailing white smoke behind.

Despite the crushing operations by our Wild Eagles, the United States air force in China has been repeating guerilla counter-offensives, but they have invariably been smashed.

Foe Launches Destroyer

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—The first large destroyer of the American navy to serve as the flagship of a destroyer squadron has been launched recently, says the New York correspondent of the News Chronicle.

Japan's Strength Growing Hourly, Warns Former U.S. Scribe in China

Clark Lee Writes in Mariners' Weekly Nippon Already Winning War—Asserts She Is Consolidating Her Position Every Minute

Warning that Japan is destined to consolidate its structure of invincibility militarily and politically in East Asia, Clark Lee, former A.P. correspondent in China who once took part in the current Pacific war, declared in a recent issue of the Mariners' Weekly that unless the anti-Axis forces throw their whole weight upon Japan without delay Japan will enlarge its fighting strength hourly, according to a Canton dispatch to the Mainichi. His article in the magazine is entitled "The Undercurrent in the Pacific" and reveals the great worry of the Anglo-American camp over Japan's daily mounting fighting power and the menace it is feeling from Japan. The gist of his article follows:

"Japan has already secured possession of all the territory and resources she needs. Today she controls a population of 300,000,000 and a territory 3,250,000 square miles wide.

"The startling fact is that Japan is already winning the war. She promises to be the most powerful State in the world. All she needs is time—the time to develop her new territory and to unite the Asiatic peoples and put them under her guidance. And time is siding with Japan.

"Japan is using every minute of her time to consolidate the Orient's potentialities in the military, economic, political and every other field. Unless we start an advance against Japan with all available strength, and unless we continue our aid in Chungking's operations, it will become extremely difficult to wrest back the vast territory which Japan occupies.

"Japan today offers ideal conditions for air raids. Her numerous industries are still concentrated in the large cities. Most of the people still live and work in the large cities. Severe air raids on these cities now would deal a terrible blow to Japan. But things would be different six months hence. Japan has already undertaken plans to scatter her key industries.

Fully Utilizing Resources

"Japan has not only developed and is utilizing Greater East Asia's resources, but is exporting them to the Axis countries.

"Japanese shipping has suffered losses by our aircraft and submarine attacks, but part of those losses have already been made up for by new buildings and by the seacraft seized in the initial stage of the war.

"It may be that Japan's dependence on seacraft for transportation will be temporary. Has not Sung Mei-ling said that Japan in the course of next year may extend Asia's railways as far as Singapore? If this is done, Japan will retain a net of land communications, which will be immune from attack from the sea, even if the bulk of the Japanese Navy is destroyed.

"In addition, Japan is bending low over the work of establishing contact by air between the Japanese mainland and the occupied territory.

"Of equal importance with Japan's economic planning is the

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CHIANG UNITS GIVEN STAGGERING BLOWS

Japanese Army Air Force Holds Complete Supremacy Over 6th War Zone

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON CENTRAL CHINA FRONT, December 23.—Staggering blows are being dealt Chungking remnants along the Pashan mountain range in the vicinity of Nuanshuichieh by crack Japanese Units ever since December 18. Numerous heavy guns have been captured. Since yesterday evening the enemy, finding it futile to resist the Japanese advance, have started to flee into the mountains to the west.

With annihilating drives being launched against the Chungking 11th, 38th and 185th Divisions, the battle on the western Hunan front is increasing in intensity.

Bigger Results Revealed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON FOREMOST FRONT, December 23.—A further two and three additional enemy planes respectively were found to have been brought down in the Japanese attacks against Kunming on December 18 and 22, making the score of the first raid 19 and the second 29, although the Imperial Headquarters' announcement had previously mentioned 17 and 26 machines having been destroyed in the two raids.

Japanese Rule Skies

Domei

JAPANESE BASE IN CENTRAL CHINA, December 23.—With Japanese Army Air Units continuing spectacular activities in the current campaign against Chungking's 6th War Zone, complete air supremacy is held by them over the entire front line.

When the fighting for the capture of the Yuan River line was nearing its climax, the American air force in China, for mere forms sake, cooperated with Chungking armies by conducting guerrilla attacks, but was silenced by a series of raids against their bases and damage incurred in aerial combats over the battlefields.

Wherever Japanese land forces operate, they are always given close cooperation by our Air Forces. In operations for the capture of enemy fortification along the Yuan River and attacks against enemy reinforcement forces coming to the rescue of Changteh, our land and air forces showed closest cooperation.

In the current campaign along the western front, which has been

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BRITISH KEEP SILENT ON CALCUTTA RAID

Masses Want Explanation Why 'Best Defended City in Asia' Was Bombed

Domei

RANGOON, December 24.—The British military authorities in India, who have been assuring the people that there is no city in India better defended than Calcutta, have been finding themselves in an extremely awkward position ever since December 5 when the Imperial Army and Naval Air Units, in broad daylight, carried out their devastating attack against Calcutta.

It was not until December 8, three days after the raid, that anything in the nature of a communique was issued by the British military authorities.

It was extremely brief and did not say anything beyond the fact that Calcutta had been raided by Japanese planes. As for an account of the details of the attack, none were to be found in the communique.

Reports indicate that this failure on the part of the military authorities in India to publish full information about the Calcutta raid has given rise to bitter resentment among the Indian masses. This feeling rapidly turned into distrust against the irresponsibility and meanness of the attitude of the military administration in India.

The Statesman, an influential daily published in Calcutta, questioned the action of the British authorities in failing to take the Indians into their confidence with regard to the Calcutta raid, evoking a hearty response from various quarters in India, according to information reaching here.

The Statesman of December 8 reported that in the raid of December 5, in addition to considerable damage to property in the vicinity of the pier, 500 casualties were sustained of which a third proved fatal.

The Statesman's report of the raid was couched in such a manner that the sentiment of the residents, who suddenly found themselves exposed to air attacks while in the midst of famine and spreading contageous diseases, were incensed toward the British authorities.

The Statesman, in an editorial on December 10, pointed out the helplessness of the air force in India, thereby endorsing the accuracy of the Japanese communiques. The paper also dwelt upon the right

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JAPANESE END MILITARY RULE IN SHAN STATES

Administration Turned Over to Burmese as of Dec. 23; Closing Function Held

TREATY PLEDGE FULFILLED

Announcement Made by Supreme Commander of Nippon Forces in Burma Area

Domei

RANGOON, December 23.—The Japanese military administration in the Shan States of Burma was abolished today, it was announced by the Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in the Burma Area. His official proclamation follows:

"The military administration in the area under the control of the Shan States Government is abolished on December 23, 1943."

The Imperial Government, it is recalled, pledged that the military administration in the Shan States would be discontinued within three months by virtue of "The Treaty concerning the Territory of Burma in the Shan States and others" which was concluded on September 25 between the Japanese and Burmese Governments relative to the incorporation of the Shan States involving Karenni and Wa States. The abolition is carried out in accordance with this treaty.

Governor-General Named

Domei

RANGOON, December 24.—The Burmese Government under date of December 23 formally appointed U Ba Win, Minister of the Interior, additionally as Governor-General of the Shan Region as the highest executive chief there following the abolition of the Japanese Military Administration and the incorporation of the region into the Burmese territory.

Closing Ceremony Held

Domei

RANGOON, December 24.—The closing ceremony of the Shan States Government following the abolition of the Japanese military administration was held today. The function was attended by the acting Supreme Commander of the Japanese Army Forces in the Burma Area and 36 sultans in the Shan States. The acting Supreme Commander issued a proclamation in which he expressed his thanks to these sultans for their enthusiastic cooperation with the Japanese Military Administration.

This was followed by the transfer of the Shan States Government to Minister of the Interior U Ba Win from the Japanese authorities. The Burmese Foreign Minister Thakin Nu also attended this function, which was carried out without hitch. Thus, Burma in one unified structure, which has been long cherished by the Burmese, has been realized through Japan's faithful observance of its international commitment.

SIKH RESIDENTS IN MALAI PAY HOMAGE TO MARTYRS

Gather at Temples to Observe 239th Anniversary of Ajit, Jorawar Singh

Domei

SHONAN, December 23.—Members of the Sikh community in Malai yesterday morning gathered at all Sikh temples to observe the 239th anniversary of the martyrdom of Ajit Singh and Jorawar Singh.

History records that Ajit Singh and Jorawar Singh, when still in their teens, together with other Sikhs, died fighting bravely against stupendous odds for the destruction of tyranny.

Besides paying homage and offering prayers in the memory of these gallant youths, the Sikhs vowed to emulate their noble example by consecrating their lives in a similar manner for the emancipation of their motherland.

Stahmer Sees Shigemitsu

German Ambassador H. G. Stahmer called on Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu at the latter's official residence at 5 p.m. on Friday.

OUR NAVAL ACES SHOOT DOWN 24 FOE PLANES OVER RABAUL, BOMB ENEMY ON NEW BRITAIN

American Soldiers Trapped on Arawe; Await Grim X'mas

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—American soldiers trapped hopelessly on Arawe Island and New Britain Island, are despairingly greeting each other with words such as "two more days of air attack before Christmas," according to reports from an Associated Press correspondent attached to the United States army. Apparently the daily attacks by the Japanese raiders are completely demoralizing the Americans who are realizing their desperate plight. They await a grim Christmas reception.

FINSCHHAFEN ENEMY SURPRISE ATTACKED

Taking Advantage of Storm Nippon Units Blow Up Cars, Godown and Tanks

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 23.—Penetrating into enemy positions along the northern shore of the Song River under the cover of a raging storm, daring Japanese troops, on the night of December 19, struck terror into the enemy by brandishing swords and throwing bombs and hand grenades at their cars and tents. The enemy were thrown into utter confusion.

As the result of this surprise attack an enemy godown was blown up and one tank and two automobiles were set ablaze. After the raid the Japanese warriors safely returned to their bases. On the same day, another group carried out a surprise attack before daybreak against another enemy position and destroyed one tank.

Furious battles have been raging in the Finschhafen area along the Song River, particularly in the northern sector for many days.

Torpedo-Boats Sunk

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 23.—Numerous enemy motor torpedo-boats were sunk or damaged off the mouth of the Song River, north of Finschhafen, New Guinea Island, on the night of December 17, when our Army Air Units heavily raided enemy landing points in that sector.

Our raiders also scored direct hits on enemy military installations causing fires to start at two points.

Torokina Foe Pounded

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 24.—Imperial Navy Air Units carried out surprise attacks on the enemy airfield and materials depot at Cape Torokina on Bougainville Island twice before daylight on December 20. All the bombs dropped by them took effect. Explosions followed by fires were caused at four places. One of our planes has not yet returned.

Kavieng Raiders Repulsed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 24.—A total of 17 enemy B-24 planes came attacking Kavieng on New Ireland Island five times during the night of December 20 but our garrison units quickly put them to rout.

More Attackers Repulsed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, December 24.—Out of a formation of five B-25's which attempted to attack Wotje in the Marshall Islands on December 22, our anti-aircraft batteries downed one enemy plane and put the remainder to flight.

Meanwhile, three enemy B-24's attempted to raid Kwajalein Island of the South Sea Islands on December 22, but were promptly repulsed by our anti-aircraft batteries.

No damage was caused to our positions in either of these raids.

12 Downed in Marshall

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC, December 24.—Eight enemy P-38 planes came to at-

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2 Landing Vessels Heavily Damaged and Fires Caused in 8 Places

ARAWE ISLAND RAIDED

Imperial Headquarters Announcement Reveals Results On December 23

Imperial Naval Air Units heavily damaged and set afire two enemy landing vessels and caused fires in eight places at dawn on December 23 in their attacks on the enemy key positions in the vicinity of Cape Merkus, New Britain Island, and on Arawe Island, according to a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters at 4 p.m. on Friday.

Intercepting about 75 attacking enemy planes over Rabaul, our Naval Wild Eagles shot down 24 of them, four of them unconfirmed, on the morning of December 23, it was also disclosed in the same announcement. Six of our planes have not yet returned, according to the announcement.

The communique follows:

"1. Imperial Naval Air Units at dawn of December 23 bombed the enemy key positions in the vicinity of Cape Merkus as well as those on Arawe Island, and heavily damaged and set ablaze two landing vessels in addition to causing fires in eight places.

"2. On the morning of December 23, Imperial Naval Air Units intercepted and attacked about 75 enemy planes that came attacking Rabaul, and shot down 24 of them (four unascertained).

"Loss on our side:

Six planes not yet returned."

Battle Becomes Fierce

The fighting around our strategic key line on New Britain Island has been taking on increasingly more fierce aspects since the enemy landed a part of his force on Cape Merkus on December 15.

Th enemy's sea supply route is being pounded repeatedly by our Navy Wild Eagles, while the enemy landing points around Cape Merkus are being subjected to incessant bombardment.

Imperial Naval Air Units on December 23 strafed the enemy positions near Cape Merkus and Arawe and scored substantial result, as was announced by the Imperial Headquarters on Friday.

Our Navy Wild Eagles on the same day intercepted an enemy formation of about 75 aircraft over Rabaul and shot down 24 or one-third of them.

The invading enemy formation consisted of 27 Consolidated B-24's and about 48 others, including Lockheed P-38's Vought-Sikorski F4U's, Grumman F4F's and F6F's.

Details of the enemy craft shot down in this engagement are five B-24's, one P-38, seven F4U's, two PF4F's and nine F6F's.

The air duel over New Britain is growing fiercer and fiercer every day with a criss-cross of the comrade and foe land-based air strengths.

Cape Merkus Bombed

Domei

LISBON, December 24.—Powerful Japanese raiders attacked American bases on Cape Merkus, New Britain Island, and inflicted serious damage and casualties, according to a Melbourne report quoting the official announcement issued by the anti-Axis Headquarters of Southwestern Pacific today.

130 U.S. WARPLANES DOWNED OVER REICH

Foe Claims Only 60 Lost At Schweinfurt

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 23.—In the recent raid on Schweinfurt, Germany, the United States air forces lost more than 130 planes, but according to Washington reports the United States War Department announced only a portion of the loss in a statement issued today.

"In the raid on Schweinfurt, we lost 60 Flying Fortresses. Of their crew, 581 are missing, 346 were taken prisoners by the Germans, and nothing is learned of the remaining 217, but it is believed that some of them were captured as prisoners," the statement said.

HEROIC CIVILIAN 1,500 OF GILBERTS LAUDED

Fully Cooperated With Landing Party in Construction and In Fighting Off Foe

The 1,500 civilians who met a gallant death together with the 3,000 officers and men of the Imperial Navy Landing Party on Tarawa and Makin Islands were hard workers, eager, brave and fearless, imbued with an unbending sense of responsibility. Not only did they cooperate with the Landing Party in the construction work, but they also valiantly fought to the last man, dealing severe blows to the enemy.

Paymaster First Lieutenant XX who returned to Japan at the beginning of December of this year, lauded the bravery of the civilians in the service of the Navy Landing Force on Tarawa Island, at the meeting of the Kokuchokai, newspapermen's club assigned to the Navy, held on December 21, in the following story, as has been revealed by the Yomiuri-Hochi:

"Sometime toward the end of December of last year I landed on Tarawa Island after XX days' voyage. When the boat on which I was aboard approached the island I was fascinated by the beauty of the island —clear transparent waters lapping the shore, cobalt skies overhead, and densely-foliaged trees throwing shadows on the water. 'What superb beauty!' I murmured to myself.

"The engineers aboard the vessel, through strenuous training day after day, looked sturdy and strong, every one of them happily looking forward to starting work on the virgin land. In fighting spirit they were not inferior to the men of the Landing Party, ready to encounter all difficulties.

"As soon as the boat anchored, the workers, each carrying a shovel or other implement, started landing and upon setting foot on the island, I was astonished to find it devoid of any facilities or establishments. Construction had to be started from the very beginning. It was not the Paradise I had first imagined. No fresh water was available, and the entire island was rampant with epidemics, particularly with amoeba dysentery.

"Busy days followed. First, all the cargo was unloaded, and in the spare time, mosquitoes and rats were killed. Days passed, and the island became transformed into a clean, comfortable place.

Isle Becomes Fortified

"At several places on the island, cannons were set up and Japanese planes were lined up proudly on the newly-constructed airfields. The clean and beautiful island became thus fortified, ready to repulse enemy maneuvers.

"It was about that time that we welcomed the late Rear-Admiral Keiji Shibazaki, known as an authority on landing operations. Both the Landing Party garrisoned on the island and the civilians felt spiritually fortified at having the late Rear-Admiral in their midst, as their commander. The newly-built roads were lined with tall trees and decked with wild flowers. With the arrival of the new commander, the fortified island was gradually transformed.

"I was deeply impressed by the commander's personality. He was always considerate of his subordinates looking upon his men as his sons. He was wont to get up thirty minutes earlier than the others every morning to stroll round the island in order to make sure that everything was all right. On many occasions, he looked into the rooms where the civilian workers were quartered and kindly inquired after their welfare.

"He did not let any small thing slip by unnoticed. One morning noticing a worker covered with mud from head to foot reverently saluting when the flag-raising ceremony started, he immediately gave the former words of recognition. He also treated the native islanders with sympathy and kindness. Whenever he noticed any one of them rendering a special service he affectionately put a necklace on the native laborer's neck in recognition of the service rendered. All the civilian workers under his supervision highly respected and esteemed the commander.

All Daring and Fearless

"Upon the announcement of the Imperial Headquarters of the gallant death of the Landing Party and the 1,500 civilian workers, the valiant figures of the men whom I had left at the beginning of November of this year floated before my eyes one by one. Unarmed though they were, they were as daring and fearless as any armed men. Defying the furious bombing incessantly conducted by enemy planes, they filled the holes dug by the bombs. Once when a time bomb was dropped by the enemy, I ordered them to ascertain the location. Several men rushed to do so, but none came back. When I went out to see what had happened to them, I found to my surprise that they had calmly buried it and gone on working as though nothing had happened. Being always intent on discharging their duties to the full, they had no fear of bombs or danger of any kind.

"After my talk on the importance of savings, some 600 to 1,500 yen were deposited by the workers every month. A certain paymaster surprised me by offering to deposit one hundred yen the first month. Having found out that his family was not well off, I questioned him as to whether he could really afford to deposit that much. He replied most frankly and earnestly: 'I have fifty yen more to be deposited.' The next time he deposited an extra fifty yen thus saving almost all of his earnings.

"Friendship toward their comrades-in-labor was often manifested especially when one of them was wounded or became sick. When blood was needed for transfusion, they all squabbled among themselves, each wanting to offer his own blood. When their offers were rejected because their type of blood did not suit the purpose, they looked most despondent and disappointed.

"When I was wounded in my leg, so many of them came to see me to inquire after my condition that I found it impossible to keep myself isolated. Some visited me, hiding their own illness or wound. One of them made a pair of crutches for me. Thus, both the men of the Landing Party and the civilians were united in one spirit, exerting their utmost on fortifying and guarding the island under showers of enemy bombs."

P.I. Government Offices Have Letter Boxes For Those Who Want to Drop in Suggestions

Domei

MANILA, December 24.—In order to bring the Government closer to the people in line with the President's administrative policy, the Malacanan has announced the placing of letter boxes in all Government offices, including the office of the President and Ministers and the City Hall.

It is said that the people are welcomed to drop in any complaint against the Government service, or suggestions to improve it.

The policy of the independent Philippines marks a contrast with the pre-war administration of the Manuel Quezon clique, which rarely if ever, consulted the people, and in which managed government affairs in a high-handed manner.

It is recalled that the Philippine Executive Commission and the Japanese Military Administration instituted a Public Assistance Liaison Office, which has endeavored to successfully bring the Government and people closer together, and is continuing to accomplish creditable work.

COOPERATION MARKS NEW P.I. ASSEMBLY

Legislators, Casting Away Party Differences, Stand United Behind Laurel

Domei

MANILA, December 23.—To one who has seen both the prewar assembly and the present Legislative body of the Republic of the Philippines in action, the contrast is most striking. Whereas the spirit so-called "rugged individualism" characterized the old law making body, an all pervading spirit of teamwork and cooperation appears among legislators today.

Rather than resorting to filibustering or parliamentary acrobatics for which the old time politicians showed special aptitude, present day assemblymen are less argumentative and more understanding—in truth more rational and less provincial in outlook. In the past assemblymen tried to excel each other in oratory or in the number of bills introduced or approved but today bills of national interest are given first consideration and the prime concern of the assemblymen is whether the measures would benefit the nation as a whole or not.

Bills passed during the first special session and the present session, before adjournment for holidays, thus represent the efforts of a few assemblymen but the work constitutes that of scores of committeemen. Today assemblymen are all servants of one nation—the independent Republic of the Philippines. Accordingly they are performing their duties without thought of political affiliations but only possessing a sincere desire to serve their country faithfully and unselfishly. Especially noteworthy is the close fraternal relations between the speaker and the assemblymen with the latter holding Speaker Benigno S. Aquino in highest esteem for his "astute and sagacious" leadership and statesmanship.

Another characteristic worthy of note is the harmonious relations existing between the assembly and President Jose P. Laurel. The President addressed the legislators twice and in both instances the executive messages were promptly acted upon with the speedy enactment of the laws sought by the President.

Indeed the teamwork and cooperation displayed by the elected representatives reflect the close unity now binding the 18,000,000 Filipinos which augurs well for the future of the independent Philippines.

One marked characteristic of the present national assembly which distinctly sets it far above that of past regimes is the complete absence of party consciousness. Many were the petty squabbles and strife which resulted in the past because of the party system.

FILIPINOS EXHORTED TO STUDY TAGALOG

Foreign Minister Recto Avers True National Sentiment Is Expressed by Language

Domei

MANILA, December 23.—"Now that we have become a fully sovereign and independent state, it is the sacred duty of every Filipino to help propagate and enrich Tagalog as the national language of the Philippines," declared Foreign Minister Claro M. Recto in a radio speech in Tagalog this evening, on the eve of the first "Filipino Language Week" celebration.

The Foreign Minister bemoaned the fact that the development of the Tagalog language had been greatly hampered by more than three centuries of Spanish domination and 40 years of American reign when each conquerer imposed its own tongue upon the Filipino people.

"I believe, however, that the rich and foreign tongue cannot express fully the soul and sentiment of the Filipino people," he added.

He stated that now that the Filipinos have been freed from the domination of a foreign language, it is the opportunity to disseminate the Tagalog language all over the archipelago so that it will accelerate the strengthening of the Philippines national solidarity.

"Tagalog is a rich language," the Foreign Minister affirmed, adding, "It is the language that Filipinos use to express deepest feelings of love and sorrow, as well as the language they use when aroused in revolt against foreign domination."

"There is much in store for the Tagalog language. With all Filipino people cooperating in the dissemination of their native tongue, the day is not far off when it will become truly the Filipino language."

Chiang Units Given Staggering Blows

(Continued From Page 1)

carried out since December 17, our Army Air Units are closely cooperating with the ground units by bombing and machine-gunning enemy troops, who are attempting to escape from the Japanese encirclement into the mountain ravines of Pashan range.

Admits Bases Bombed

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—Japanese Bomber and Fighter Units yesterday raided important bases of the United States 14th Air Squadron stationed in China, according to a Chungking dispatch.

HEAVY WAR LOSSES UNDISCLOSED IN U.S.

Washington in Dilemma of How To Report on New Casualties Hereafter to Public

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 23.—With the war situation rapidly growing in intensity, the American authorities are seriously worried as to how to make the people prepared for huge losses which must be expected hereafter, it has been revealed in an Associated Press dispatch dated yesterday from Washington.

The American people at large, duped by optimistic Government propaganda in the past, still remain blind to the current crucial war situation, and this is harassing the Government, the same dispatch says.

The report is to the following effect:

"A certain high official of the Government has made the startling declaration that America must be prepared for casualties several times those suffered in the last two years. This is understood as meaning that the anti-Axis forces will launch operations that will be beyond comparison in scale and fierceness with any of the past campaigns.

"According to the United States Government's announcement, the casualties so far have been 132,000 dead, wounded, missing and taken prisoners. At this rate, American casualties will exceed the 500,000 mark if the predicted new campaign is opened. The anti-Axis forces are under the necessity of taking new action on the European Continent and making fresh attacks on the Japanese defense positions in the Pacific.

"In the meantime, what is harassing the Government most is the fact that the American people at large remain totally blind to the actualities of the situation, so much so that credence is freely being given to unfounded peace rumors. This is attested by the fact that President Roosevelt and other Government leaders have begun to sound a warning against popular optimism.

"Some Government authorities have gone so far as to declare that nothing except a crushing defeat of the anti-Axis or bombing raids on American cities can awaken the people from their bliss.

"Repeated attempts have been made, both by speech and the press, to arouse the people, but they have practically failed. Opinion is gaining ground among a section of the Government that photographs depicting the horrors of war might awaken the people to some extent at least.

"Films of the Tarawa Island landing operations arrived in Washington recently and were shown totally uncut to a special group of people, but it was after the deletion of horrible scenes that the films were displayed to the general public. Some Government officials insist that such films should be shown uncut to the general public, if only to stimulate national fighting strength and whip up war production."

Imperial Luncheon Granted Ministers In Homeiden Hall

His Majesty the Emperor was gracious enough to give luncheon to the Cabinet Ministers and others close to the Throne in the Homeiden Hall in the Imperial Palace Friday. Privileged to attend the luncheon were Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal Marquis Koichi Kido, Welfare Minister Chikahiko Koizumi, Justice Minister Michiyo Iwamura, Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, State Minister Nobusuke Kishi, Transportation and Communication Minister Yoshiaki Hatta, Home Minister Kisaburo Ando, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki, Education Minister Viscount Nagakage Okabe and State Ministers Fumio Goto and Ginjiro Fujihara. His Imperial Highness General Prince Higashikuni was also pleased to attend. Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira, Grand Chamberlain Admiral Saburo Hyakutake and Chief Aide-de-Camp General Shigeru Hasunuma were also permitted to attend.

Japan's Power Is Growing Hourly, Says Foe Scribe

(Continued From Page 1)

fact that she is bending efforts to bringing about unity between the Japanese and the other peoples of Asia.

"Plans are afoot in Japan to maintain the occupied area by air strength. According to reports, Japan is turning out at least XX aircraft monthly. She is also concentrating great efforts on the building of a systematized net of airfields from the northern to the southern tip of the Pacific and which would be turned into land bases for aircraft.

"In our future offensive operations, it will be necessary to send attack forces by sea against the land-based air strength.

Japan Bolsters Key Points

"Japan knows that America would succeed in landing operations by concentrating adequate air strength on any given point. So Japan has greatly strengthened her strategic key points.

"Judging by talks of the leaders of the Japanese Forces, they intend to deal heavy blows to our offensive campaign and thereby protract the war. Then in 10 or 20 years' time she will integrate the unity of the Asiatics and perfect a solid war footing.

"Our present strategy in the Pacific is purely one of defense. This is benefiting Japan. We are only attacking defense lines Japan has built up, we are not yet defending defense lines of our own building. It will be only after Japan has secured possession of all the resources she needs that we can cut off the supply route for the Japanese Forces.

"All in all, while we are winning battles and dealing losses to Japanese shipping, we have not yet broken through even the outer line of Japan's defense sphere.

"Admittedly, it will be impossible to take the offensive without enough personnel, sea and aircraft. No matter what our strategy may be, whether it be island-hopping or attack via Alaska, Hawaii or China, the task before us is an onerous one.

"All this while, Japan is making constant use of the time which we are giving her."

BOLIVIAN COUP LONG PLANNED

(Continued From Page 1)

the bitter antipathy of the Bolivian people toward the oppressive tactics of the so-called good neighbor policy of the United States Government. The dispatches say that the coup d'etat has its source in the bitter antagonism prevailing against the government's political and economic policies.

Elements from the Bolivian army and youth organizations, through love for their native land, engineered the coup d'etat to completely emancipate Bolivia from the shackles of the United States as a mere puppet and to set up an administration absolutely free from outside pressure, it was revealed.

The first political cause is said to be the dissatisfaction at the declaration of war on the Axis nations by the Bolivian Government. It is recalled that one year after the severence of diplomatic ties with the Axis, Vice President of the United States Henry Wallace, in March of this year, visited Bolivia. Immediately afterward the Bolivian Government declared war on the Axis which was officially approved by Congress in November.

The second political cause is the problem relating to a sea outlet from Chile. Concerning this issue, the Bolivian Government barely saved its face by obtaining the free port of Santos which is actually of no practical value. That this solution was the result of American intrigue was the common opinion of the informed circles in Bolivia.

Economically, the first cause is found in the tin problem. As a result of the surrender of the country's whole production of tin to the United States, innumerable labor disputes and other social problems have cropped up causing no end of trouble which threatened to disrupt the people's living. Moreover, even the old Penarande administration could not endure the high handed actions of the United States and recently were reluctant to revise the old pact concerning the price for tin. Subsequently, the Bolivian Government also flatly refused the United States proposal to gain control of her government owned quinine factories.

However, not knowing when or what sort of insult the puppet government would have to bear in the future, the revolutionists, composed mostly of Army and youth organizations, rose to overthrow the administration, it was revealed here.

In connection with the quinine factory problem, the United States proposed to return them again to Bolivia after three years without accepting any compensation and for the whole output of 10,000 kilograms, offered the price of $20 per kilogram.

The Bolivian Government, not to be robbed, set out to counteract the demand and subsequently sold to Argentina 2,500 kilograms at the worthwhile price of $56 per kilogram. Again, with plans to export the rest to other countries, Bolivia absolutely refused to surrender the factories to United States, it is reported.

Bougainville Marines Replaced

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 22.—The United States Army Forces under Lieutenant-General Millard Harmon have replaced the American Marines in the land fighting on Bougainville Island, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Guadalcanal quoting the announcement made by the anti-Axis Headquarters in the South Pacific issued on December 15.

Meets Turk Foreign Chief

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 24.—Tadashi Kurihara, Japanese Ambassador at Ankara, had an interview with Numan Menemengioglu, Turkish Foreign Minister, on December 20.

F.I.C. WILL BOLSTER DEFENSE OF NATION

Adequate Steps Taken With Nippon Forces to Counteract U.S. Terror Bombings

Domei

SAIGON, December 23.—Imbued with the spirit of joint cooperation with Japan, the French Indo-China Government and people are carrying out all necessary measures to bolster the country's defenses to enable French Indo-China to become a strong link in Greater East Asia.

The recent indiscriminate bombings of northern French Indo-China by the American air force in China have served only to strengthen the nation's determination to defend French Indo-China at all costs.

Since this month, several raids which had been carried out by the American air force, failed to damage military objectives but caused only casualties among innocent people, thus serving to intensify the population's hatred for the enemy.

Travelers from Hanoi have declared that no confusion exists among the populace there, who regard lightly the damage sustained, when they reflect on the fact that French Indo-China is able to enjoy peace amidst the great global war.

Thus, the Government, in accordance with the spirit of joint defense with Japan, is taking all necessary measures to cope with any unforeseen situation, while military authorities are taking appropriate measures in conjunction with the Japanese Forces.

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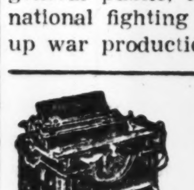

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EUROPEAN ATHLETES MAKE GOOD SHOWING

New Records Set Up as Germans, Neutrals Stage Numerous Meets

Unusual interest was displayed in European track and field meets this year with athletes from Germany and neutral countries setting up good performances in the numerous meets staged throughout the continent.

In a recent meet held in Germany, Bauer turned in the best performance of the year when he established a mark of 7.50 meters in the broad-jump event. In the shot-put event, Miss Gerstung of Germany heaved the weight 12.94 meters, which was recognized as the best effort for the current track and field season. Nacke, the national title-holder for the high jump, cleared the bar at 1.90 meters nosing out Langhoff who placed in the runner-up position.

In Wilhelmshaven, Hein, the Olympic winner of the hammer throw, again distinguished himself with a throw of 54.10 meters, which was far ahead of the efforts of the rest. Miss Steinheuer, who holds the world record in the javelin throw, failed to approach her mark, but her toss of 46.03 meters was, nevertheless, considered the best achievement of the season.

Nets Double Win

In the Finnish championships, Reino, the sensational Finnish distance star, turned in a double win by annexing both the 5,000 and 10,000-meter events. He negotiated the 5,000 in 14 minutes 34.6 seconds and was followed by Heinstaden, who was clocked in at 14 minutes 37.8 seconds. He also took first place honors in the gruelling 10,000 meter run by finishing ahead of an imposing field of entrants, in the fast time of 30 minutes 17.3 seconds, which was the best time turned in by European athletes during the year. The 25-kilometer run was taken by Laksonen who was timed in at 1 hour 26 minutes and 20 seconds. Sonck, with a leap of 15.77 meters, took first place in the hop-step and jump event.

Petersen, the versatile Danish athlete, made a good showing recently in the national championships by winning both the 1,500-meter run and the pole vault events. He won the former in 3 minutes 58.4 seconds while he cleared 4 meters flat in the pole vault to take first place honors.

Good marks were also registered in the Swedish championships, with Erickson winning the javelin throw with a toss of 72.15 meters. Boeressen, the Swedish weight star, established a new national mark in the hammer throw, when he heaved the weight 55.10 meters. In the 5,000 meter run Kirkfeld took first place by stepping the distance in 14 minutes 36.4 seconds, nosing out Larson who finished second with a time of 14 minutes 36.6 seconds.

The Hungarian championships saw Nicolas Szabo win the 5,000-meter run in 14 minutes 44.2 seconds. Szilagi breasted the tape a second later, while Nemeth placed third in 14 minutes 46 seconds flat.

Great activity also marked the Spanish championships when athletes from Spain established three new national marks. Piferer shattered the existing 800-meter mark by setting up a new record of 1 minute 56 seconds, while the 400-meter low hurdles record also went overboard when Anroma topped the timbers in 56.8 seconds.

Urdiago established a new record in the 3,000-meter steeple chase by negotiating the distance in 9 minutes 46 seconds.

A new world mark in the 30-kilometer walk was made by the Swede, Harry Olsen, who was timed in 2 hours 28 minutes and 57.4 seconds, bettering the former mark held by the German, Schmidt, by nearly two minutes.

New European Record

Miss Fanny Blankers, the Dutch track and field star, who is rated as one of the leading atheltes in Europe today, set up a new European record for the 100-meter dash by turning in the fast time of 11.5 seconds. It may be remembered that earlier in the season she had established a new world mark in the high jump, when she cleared the bar at 1.71 meters. She also turned in the best performance of the year in the broad-jump event with a leap of 6.08 meters.

Werner Hardmo of Sweden, who holds the world record in the 5,000 and 10,000-meter walk, added another title to his collection when he heeled and toed his way to another world mark in the 3,000-meter walk in a recent meet staged in Stockholm. His time was 12 minutes 2 seconds, which bettered his former mark by a full 8 seconds.

Nemeth, the Hungarian weight star took two events in one afternoon when he won the hammer throw with a toss of 53.89 meters and the discus with a throw of 47.50 meters. Csanyi hurled the spear 62.55 meters to take first place while Szabo won the 1,500-meters run in the fast time of 3 minutes 56.8 seconds.

In an international track and field meet held in Breunschweig, Max Syring the 36-year-old star, who has held 16 different titles in his long and brilliant career, was beaten in the 5,000-meter event by 19-year-old Slijkhui, who set up a new Dutch record of 14 minutes 52 seconds. Osendarp, the world famous Dutch sprinter served notice that he was far from being through by winning the 100-meter event in 10.7 second and the 200-meter event in 21.9 seconds.

The broad-jump event was taken by Germany, when Albert jumped 7.30 meters. Germany also took first place honors in the shot put, the 800 meters, the 1,500 meters and the high jump. Bongen putted the shot 14.52 meters, while Schlundt won both the 800- and 1,500-meter events in 1.53 and 4.01. The high jump event was taken by Langhoff, also of Germany, with a jump of 1.90 meters.

Conference That Now Embarrasses Cordell Hull

The photo shows the Three-Power Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union which was held in October at Moscow through the suggestions of the American and British governments, the outcome of which was the Moscow Declaration pledging the three countries and Chungking, the latter added as signatory as an afterthought, to concerted efforts for prosecution of the war and for post-war construction. The recent conclusion of a mutual assistance agreement between the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak government in exile in London has caused apprehension in the United States and Britain as to the Soviet Government's intentions: and particularly embarrassed is Secretary of State Cordell Hull who on his return to America declared that there was no longer the need for the conclusion of any special agreements between the anti-Axis states. The principal conferees were British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Foreign Commissar Viacheslav Molotov.

MANCHOUKUO FIXES NEXT YEAR BUDGET

Stress Laid on Expenditures For Northern Defense and Fighting Forces

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

HSINKING, December 23.—Manchoukuo's national budget for the fiscal year 1944-45, having been deliberated on at Thursday's meeting of the Privy Council, will be shortly promulgated by the Manchoukuo Government with the Imperial sanction.

In compiling next fiscal year's national budget, the Manchoukuo Government attached great importance to expenditures necessary for the defense of its northern boundary and for the strengthening of its fighting forces, while economy was observed with expenditures of a non-urgent nature.

The expenditures in regard to general accounts in the forthcoming fiscal year will reach ¥1,315,000,000, showing an increase of ¥260,000,000, or 24 per cent, over the budget for the current year.

The revenue for the fiscal year 1944-45 from taxation and government monopolies, such as from sales of salt and matches, will amount to ¥1,047,000,000, which is an increase of ¥239,000,000 over the current fiscal year. The amount of loan flotations for the new fiscal year will be about the same as the current fiscal year, the greater portion of the expenditures being covered by the ordinary revenue.

Finschhafen Enemy Surprise Attacked

(Continued From Page 1)

tack Mille Island in the Marshall group on December 21. Our naval fighter unit and garrison unit met the raiders and shot down five of them. One of our planes has not returned yet.

The same day Taroa Island, in the same group, was attacked by a total of 27 enemy B-24 planes two times, one during the morning and the other in the afternoon. Our naval fighter unit shot down seven of the raiding planes. One of our planes has not returned.

Expert Reich Clavichordist, Here, Finds Enjoyment in Studying Koto

Mrs. Harich-Schneider Gives Interesting Facts on Most Expressive of Keyboard Instruments—Voices Admiration for Koscak Yamada

By KAY OHARA

Breaking the stillness of the afternoon air came sweet, tremulous music, momentarily transforming the modern interior of the Inaba Mansions, in Shibuya, to a tapestried drawing room of olden days.

It was the clavichord being played by Mrs. Eta Harich-Schneider, visiting musician from Berlin.

"To think that people a thousand years ago played on an instrument just like this," she mused as, the piece concluded, she turned away from the small instrument which resembled in outward aspect a miniature piano, but without pedals. "For it is known to have existed in Europe that long ago. It originated in Spain, whence it made its way into other countries of Europe. Later on it was replaced by the harpsichord, or cembalo as it is called in Germany, a more elaborate instrument with pedals and two manuals.

"But because of the scope which the clavichord affords for individual expression," she continued, as she seated herself in an armchair, "it was a favorite instrument with all the best musicians of the day. It might be said to be the instrument of the composer. Bach is said to have preferred it to the harpsichord, and Mozart loved to play on it. Even Beethoven, though he composed exclusively for the pianofote—he was the first musician to compose exclusively for the pianoforte—spoke of the clavichord as the most expressive of all keyboard instruments."

Must Study Hard

A great deal of study and practice are necessary before mastery is attained on the clavichord, Mrs. Harich-Schneider explained. The instrument is controlled entirely by the finger tips, the vibrato being made by varying the pressure on the keys, and, therefore, the slightest jarring movement of the fingers is immediately detectable.

The clavichord was never meant for a concert instrument, the tone being much too soft, she went on, and that is why she has had to refuse, both in Europe and in Japan, invitations to broadcast over the radio. Even were it possible to properly amplify the tones, the sweetness and delicacy which constitute the charm of clavichord music would be lost.

In this respect the harpsichord is more suitable, Mrs. Harich-Schneider said, having considerable volume although not possessing the resonance of the piano.

"This," and she played a few notes on the harpsichord which reposed in all its elegance at one end of the room, "was in great vogue in Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries. Handel and Bach were the greatest composers for the harpsichord, although they composed also for the clavichord.

"I should say four or five years of intense study for even a very gifted pianist," she said in reply to a question on this point. "Even I, who had made a special study of music, especially old music, since girlhood, studied hard during six summers in Paris under one of the best harpsichord players of modern times before I felt sufficiently confident to perform before an audience, and I was already then a concert pianist."

There are not so very many, Mrs. Harich-Schneider further said, who can play the harpsichord today with real understanding and sympathy, and fewer still who can play the clavichord. To be able to play both these old instruments, she added, especially the clavichord, one must know not only the technique but also the old scores and the spirit of the old masters.

In 1930, Mrs. Harich-Schneider was appointed instructor of the piano at the State Academy in Berlin, and in 1932 became instructor also of the harpsichord.

Becomes Popular

As a direct result of her concerts in Italy, there grew a mounting interest in the harpsichord and, about five years ago, classes for its study were formed in Rome, Naples and Florence.

"I and my harpsichord became a familiar sight on the Brenner pass," she laughed.

Again, it was her harpsichord which was instrumental in bringing Mrs. Harich-Schneider to Japan. A six-week concert tour in Japan was planned, and with her two instruments—the harpsichord and the clavichord—she arrived in this country in April 1941.

"Although it was more in the spirit of a holiday jaunt that I came here," she said. "We artists are used to travelling about and think nothing of a long trip."

Unfortunately the intensification of hostilities prevented her return to Europe. Commenting on this point, she said, "I miss my classes at the Academy, but looking at the situation from another standpoint, I consider myself fortunate.

"For in the Japanese and their attitude toward music, I have discovered a new world. I often wish that my students in Berlin could witness the zeal with which my students here are pursuing their studies.

"They are anxious not only to learn the technique but also to enter into the spirit of our music. They have a most sensitive ear, and an innate refinement of taste, both essential to the good musician. No wonder Japan has made such marvelous progress in the musical field.

"Take for instance Koscak Yama," she said, "for whom I have the greatest admiration. Not only has he a thorough grasp of our music but he has built up the foundations for a new music in Japan. I always say that Mr. Yamada has done for Japan's music what Goethe did for Germany's poetry.

"Naturally there are sometimes little flaws," she admitted, "but do you think if we Europeans were to attempt an adoption of your music, we would make such progress in a mere 35 or 40 years? I don't think so."

As a first step in the study of Japanese music, Mrs. Harich-Schneider is finding great enjoyment in the "koto," and if time permits she will also take up the study of the "samisen."

Fuehrer's Headquarters

December 23

At the Nikopol bridgehead several minor Soviet attacks were repulsed. Southeast of Kirovograd our troops continued their attacks taking an important ridge. Further towards the north a Soviet group was surprised and wiped out.

In the area of Zhitomir stubborn attacks by the enemy, supported by tanks and strong infantry formations, were frustrated after embittered fighting. Altogether 76 Soviet tanks were destroyed.

Northwest of Retchitsa our troops, after having repelled all enemy counter thrusts, drove the Soviets further back.

In the area of Vitebsk the enemy confined his actions to local attacks only, which however were all repulsed.

The second battalion of the grenadier regiment 528, commanded by Captain Doermann, particularly distinguished itself in the heavy defensive and offensive fighting southwest of Zhlobin.

In southern Italy the enemy repeatedly attacked with strong tank forces and battleplane support in the section of Ortona. All attacks were repelled in bitter fighting with heavy losses to the enemy. Altogether five tanks were destroyed. The day passed quietly on the rest of the front.

Off the Norwegian coast five British torpedo planes unsuccessfully attacked a German submarine and another smaller naval craft with torpedoes. Two of the attacking planes were shot down. A third was set afire.

North American bombers, during the day yesterday, appeared over northwestern Germany under the cover of clouds. Dispersed by the anti-aircraft batteries and prevented from carrying out a concentrated attack the enemy dropped explosive and incendiary bombs indiscriminately. Some 28 of the planes were shot down including 21 heavy bombers. Further four machines were lost by the enemy over the occupied western territories. In the evening hours of yesterday some enemy nuisance planes came over the Rhine district.

Fast German bombers dropped bombs last night on Eastbourne.

U. S. Launches Destroyer

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 22.—The United States Navy Department today announced the launching of the destroyer Meredith, a Washington dispatch disclosed. The report added that the destroyer was the third one to be named Meredith.

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REINHOLD HOLZAPFEL

Weihnachten 1943.
Tokio

British Keep Silent On Calcutta Raid

(Continued From Page 1)

of the Indians to know everything about the attack.

The editorial, in substance, ran as follows:

"Calcutta still patiently waits for a complete account of the raid. A brief communique was issued on the 8th, four days after the attacks, from the headquarters in New Delhi, and from Calcutta.

"How was it that Calcutta, with the best defenses in all Asia, as the British authorities have been so often telling us, came to be attacked—in broad daylight—by the Japanese Air Force and that no more than two of the raiding planes could be shot down by the defenders? Some delay in the publication of details of the raid may be unavoidable because of circumstances but the publicity system is certainly out of order. This, however, will not prevent us from demanding that the British authorities be prompt in taking effective counter-measures against future raids and in issuing full details of the Japanese air attack on Calcutta."

Burma Relief Fund

Domei

RANGOON, December 24.—The Burmese Government has decided on the creation of the "War Relief Fund" out of the monetary donations given by the Japanese Government and Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, totaling 1,250,000 rupees for the relief of the air raid victims.

NOTICE

Dated the 24th December, 1943.

Office of the Burmese Embassy at Tokyo will be closed from the 25th December, 1943 to the 5th January, 1944 (inclusive) for the New Year. It will be reopened on the 6th January, 1944 at the New Embassy House, i.e., No. 312, 3-chome, Kitashinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo.

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On

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THE NIPPON TIMES, LTD.
TOKYO

Publisher and Printer .... SHOICHI KAWAMURA
Office ....1, 1-chome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo

GEN. SUZUKI LAUDS FUTURE CONSCRIPTS

Exhorts 19-Year-Old Youths; Places Great Faith in Their Efficiency

Following the official announcement by the Board of Information on Thursday, concerning the lowering of the military conscription age by one year to 19 for all males in Japan Proper, General Takao Suzuki, President of the Dai-Nippon Youths' Corps, exhorted those who will be conscripted in accordance with the newly-enacted ordinance, to exert their utmost in their service to the State.

General Suzuki's statement follows:

"With the war entering a decisive stage, Japan's fighting potentialities will be further increased through the conscription of youths of 19 years of age. The new measure is an epoch-making one. Some may harbor doubts as to the physical efficiency of the boys below the age of 20, but I can with confidence assure you that at 19 years old, boys are physically fully grown. Juvenile aviators are not older than 15 or 16 but they are just as efficient physically as youths over 20. At the time of the Russo-Japanese War I was a military cadet at the age of 18, and I could stand up to the same amount of hardships as my elders.

At the age of 19 boys are just leaving middle school, but the rigid physical training they get at school and their burning patriotism sufficiently equip them to enter the barracks. Japan has hitherto conducted successful warfare relying on the spiritual strength of the officers and men. However, at the present crucial juncture, quantity is indispensable together with quality in order to gain ultimate victory.

"Now that a new ordinance has been issued regarding military conscription it is my wish that all youths will devote their utmost efforts to serve the State.

"In the United States, the government lowered the military conscription age to 18 and organized a women's corps as a measure to mitigate the shortage in the defense forces. On the contrary, Japan maintained the conscription age at 20, because her manpower resources were sufficient. In this connection I have deepest faith in Japan's fighting strength.

"At the time of the Russo-Japanese War the field of operations was limited, but today, the fighting arena stretches over an extremely wide area, and thus the fighting forces must be augmented to cope with the extension of the war zone.

"To give full play to the striking power of the Japanese Forces, we need more troops and seamen. Then, Japan will crush the enemy who will realize, too late, the utter futility of standing up against the Japanese Forces.

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Nippon Times

Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
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Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 404, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICES:
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One month, ¥5.00; six months, ¥28.00; one year, ¥55.00. Postage free to all parts of the Japanese Empire, Manchoukuo and China. For foreign countries, including postage, six months, ¥42.40; one year, ¥83.80. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

TOKYO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1943

The Spirit of Christmas

Once again a strife-torn world greets Christmas with the discordant accompaniment of shot and shell. No voice of herald angels singing the message of "peace on earth, good will toward men" can be heard this year above the din of roaring guns and the groans of dying men. Hate, bitterness, lies and propaganda fill the air; heartaches and despair, sorrow for fathers and sons wrenched from the hearth to be mangled on distant battlefields fill the hearts of suffering mankind. The Prince of Peace whose natal anniversary is being celebrated so incongruously today must weep with bitter grief if He could see what a travesty sinful man has made of His noble gospel of good cheer and brotherly love.

The irony is all the more bitter because the deepest offenders are the allegedly Christian nations which ostensibly profess to believe in the teachings of the Messiah whose spirit they are so flagrantly violating. With hypocritical sacrilege, it is these so-called Christian nations like Britain and America which have plunged the world into blood out of their inordinate pride and selfish ambition. Brushing aside the precepts of their all but forgotten Master, it is these nations which seek to perpetuate their unholy regime of exploitation, injustice, discriminations, and brute power.

Even in these enemy countries so heavily laden with guilt, there must be countless sincere and devout individuals who must wonder why it is that their governments have persisted in following a course which they in private must deplore. These individuals must, out of the bitterness of their suffering, question their leaders who have dragged them down a path so utterly at variance from their real desires. Why is it that for almost two thousand years the nations which have professed to be Christian have so continuously fought in so un-Christian a manner? How long will it be before the Christian peoples succeed in making their leaders conform to their professed ideals?

Out of this welter of hypocrisy and disillusionment, there is one ray of hope. Out of the serene wisdom of ancient Asia there has recently emerged a new movement which promises a vindication of the true spirit of Christmas, for the nations of Asia although not Christian, exemplify the true spirit of the Oriental Christ more thoroughly than those who ostensibly profess to advocate it. Brotherly amity, respect for each others' individual entity, cooperation on a basis of complete reciprocity and equality for the attainment of common prosperity and well-being, abolition of racial discriminations, abolition of economic exclusiveness, world peace through moral justice—these principles proclaimed by the countries of East Asia constitute a practical application of the gospel of "peace on earth, good will toward men." They offer a hope for the return to earth of the spirit which the professedly Christian nations have all but destroyed.

Christmas this year may thus be a sorry travesty throughout most of the world, but in the ideals of the countries of East Asia there is the promise of an eventual re-birth of the real spirit of Christmas.

White Australia

Amendment of the Chinese Exclusion Act last month was the occasion for much high-flown self-praise in the United States. President Roosevelt even went so far as to term the sixty-year-old act an "historical mistake." Since there are, however, no present signs of even such a perfunctory measure to rectify the many other similar "historical mistakes" of racial discrimination of which the United States and Britain are equally guilty, it is very clear that the amendment was only so much bird-lime to retain Chungking as an Anglo-American tool in betrayal of all China's own best interests. Not until all the Anglo-American "historical mistakes" in racial policy have been fully rectified, and the enemy's psychopathic racial superiority complex radically cured, will it be possible to discover any purity of motive in forced and belated amendment of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Under the slogan of "White Australia" for instance, Australians continue to be guilty of barring their doors not only against all Chinese, but even against Indian fellow subjects of the same British Empire. The manner of execution is somewhat more subtle than America's Exclusion Act, but the result is the same—the complete exclusion of all Oriental immigrants. Under the Commonwealth Immigration Act of 1901, would-be immigrants are required to pass a literacy test in which figures the dictation of over fifty words in some European language. Though theoretically and superficially this may sound fair and reasonable enough, in accordance with the best British hypocritical tradition the actual tests are discriminatory in the extreme. By asking prospective immigrants from Asia questions in ancient Scottish or other all but obsolete dialects utterly incomprehensible to them no matter how good their knowledge of modern English or how high their cultural and educational standing, failure of these immigrants in the required examinations is assured. In this way their entry is as effectively prohibited as if an act openly aimed at their complete exclusion marred Australian statutes as it has done those of the United States for the past sixty years.

Australia is, moreover, a vast island continent. Its area covers more than three million square miles. Situated within the same longitude as the islands of Japan, it is geographically a detached appendage of the Asiatic Continent. Its normal economic development, if freed from artificial hindrances, lies within the Greater East Asia region. The Tropic of Capricorn moreover cuts Australia in two, and the whole tropical northern half, largely avoided by Anglo-Saxon immigrants physically unadapted to thrive therein, is admirably suited to development by the neighboring peoples of Asia. The country's resources are, furthermore, so rich and diverse that Australia could readily support a population of considerably more than a hundred million. Its total population is, however, only 7,000,000, or less than that of Tokyo alone. Of these 7,000,000 Australians 95 per cent are of Anglo-Saxon origin. No consideration of humanity or justice, no thought of geographical propinquity or economic logic, not even the need of the manpower of Asia to develop the country's rich resources to the full, sways these Anglo-Saxons from blind adherence to the principle of "White Australia." By this undisguised racially discriminatory principle, based on exclusion of what they choose to call the "non-assimilable" races, Australia's Anglo-Saxons seek to maintain their disproportionately high standard of living and perpetuate their jealous monopoly of the island continent's rich resources for themselves alone, in utter disregard of the interests of all other peoples and the general well-being of humanity.

Yet these Australians, within Asia's own geographical sphere, behind doors tight-closed to all Asiatics, including allied Chungking Chinese as well as fellow subjects of Indian extraction, have the insolence to lend their voice to the hypocritical Anglo-American chorus and preach of the defense of democracy and the furtherance of mankind's welfare!

No country in the world has not had direct occasion to be nauseated at some time by the crying discrepancy between British and American preachment and practice. The Indian people in particular, forced into a galling subjection to Britain wherein the duty of dying as cannon fodder for Britain is exacted but the privileges of British subjects within the Empire, in Australia as in South Africa and elsewhere, are denied, must feel even more keenly than any other the hideous injustice of Anglo-Saxon racial discrimination.

Though the Anglo-Saxons themselves continue their empty lip-service to the fair principles of humanity and justice, they cannot but be aware that their whole attitude toward the peoples of Asia is a flagrant denial of these very principles. They cannot but be inwardly aware that their own racial blunders and crimes, their aggressiveness toward Asia abroad, and their exclusiveness against Asia at home, are alone responsible for the War of Greater East Asia, and that the same retributory avalanche which swept them out of East Asia will eventually sweep them out of India also.

A Year Ago Today

December 25, 1942

The Bolivian Government announced that the strike of the miners ended today as the Government has promised to consider their demand for wage increase and the miners have immediately returned to work.

American Tragedies

The Imperial Rescript Clearly Reveals That Japan Entered War Against Her Will

By RETSU KIYOSAWA
(From the Oriental Economist)

Part I

"To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart.

"To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain."

From the foregoing passage of the Imperial Rescript declaring war on the United States of America and the British Empire, it is patent that Japan went to war against her will. According to Peace and War, United States Foreign Policy (1931 1941), an official document issued by the Department of State, President Roosevelt stated in his interview with Japanese Ambassadors Nomura and Kurusu on November 17, 1941, that America desired to avert war with Japan and to bring about a fair and peaceful settlement in the Pacific area, and accepted the statement of the Japanese Ambassadors that such was also Japan's desire. Roosevelt further said that from the long-range point of view there was no occasion to cause serious differences between the two countries, thus acknowledging Japan's zeal and desire for peace. This notwithstanding, the war of Greater East Asia broke out and it has been going on now for full two years. This is mostly due to the traditional policy and short-sighted views of the government of the United States. As we enter the third year of Pacific hostilities, it may not be irrelevant to examine once more the circumstances leading to the Pacific tragedy.

Was Immediate Cause

To begin with, the election of Roosevelt for the third term was an immediate cause for the greatest tragedy that the world has yet known. The American people have to thank themselves for the misfortune that they invited by their ignoring the tradition set by George Washington. A new administration in 1941 may have led to a new diplomacy toward East Asia.

The Asiatic policy of the United States originated in the Open Door principle advanced by John Hay. But in the course of its development America placed herself in the position of a champion of the peace of East Asia. "American policy," writes Tyler Dennett in his Americans in Eastern Asia, "is not philanthropic; it is not, in its motive and history, benevolent . . . An attitude of self-righteousness is neither becoming nor justified." In another book the same author says that the American policy was essentially an interventionist policy. When a nation regards intervention as its cardinal policy, it must attempt to bring pressure to bear on a rising nation or nations by maintaining the balance of power, provided that that nation itself is not powerful enough to resort to war. If, on the contrary, that nation feels sufficiently equipped and strong, either through combination with other nations or by its own arms, it will attain its object of intervention by starting a war. In this respect the Asiatic policy of the United States is analoguous to the continental policy of Great Britain.

Illustrates Point Clearly

History illustrates this point clearly. Like Britain in pursuit of her policy toward France and Germany, the United States has made it a rule in the past to assist Japan while Russia was potent in Asia, but her attitude toward Japan underwent a change when the Japanese sphere of influence expanded in Asia. The changed attitude of American statesmanship became increasingly manifest after the Russo-Japanese War (1904-5). Washington could no longer book with equanimity on the growing power of the new Asiatic power. Theodore Roosevelt who had been friendly enough to act as a peacemaker between Japan and Russia was the author of the new Far Eastern policy of the American Government. Henry Pringle in his "Theodore Roosevelt" (New York, 1931) observes that "the President had become uncomfortably conscious of a very, very slight undertone of veiled truculence,' in the Japanese communications and concluding that they [Japanese] thought he was afraid of them,' decided it time for a show-down." In 1907 he sent a fleet of warships to Japan on what was pretended to be a round-the-world cruise. Roosevelt knew full well what this sort of gesture of bellicosity would mean.

The Japanese in California were subject to highly provocative or insulting treatments at the time. The Japanese scientists visiting there were assaulted with stones in the street. Women and children were insulted. On October 11, 1906, the Board of Education of San Francisco decided to isolate the school children of Japanese nationality. All these and other humiliations were heaped upon the Japanese after their Red Cross Society had donated relief funds more than any other country for the victims of the earthquake disaster of San Francisco in April 1906. The segregation of Japanese school children was made on the ground that they were "vicious, immoral, of an age and maturity too advanced for safe association with younger American children." The falsity of this charge was proved when it was found by investigation that there were only 93 school children in the case at issue and that of this number 25 were Americans, and 28 girls. It was further shown that while 33 were 15 years old, only 2 were 20 years of age, the oldest in the school. The school teachers gave testimony that the Japanese were model scholars.

Protest Was Natural

It was but natural that against the humiliating decision of the San Francisco school board Japan protested appealing to the historic friendship and the sense of justice of the American people toward the Japanese. But Theodore Roosevelt preferred to discern an undertone, however slight, of truculence in the Japanese communications on the subject. No doubt the visit of American warcraft provoked some spirited discussions in Japan. But the wise diplomacy which the then Premier Katsura and Foreign Minister Komura adopted saved the situation. "The most noteworthy incident of the cruise," writes Roosevelt in his Autobiography, "was the reception given to our fleet in Japan. In courtesy and good breeding, the Japanese can certainly teach much to the nations of the Western world . . . The event even surpassed my expectations. I cannot too strongly express my appreciation of the general courtesy the Japanese showed the officers and crews of our fleet; and I may add that every man came back a friend and admirer of the Japanese." But for such an agreeable surprise on the part of Roosevelt, Japan and America might have been plunged into war long before 1941.

What the Hoover Government and Secretary of State Stimson attempted in Manchuria subsequent to the military outbreak is still fresh in the memory of most people. The United States, non-member of the League of Nations at that time, contended, before the League itself did, that economic sanction should be applied against Japan and looked to the League to do her bidding. Where an economic sanction at the time would have led is clear from what broke out when the United States took recourse to it against Japan in 1941. Nor was that all. Seeing that Britain and the League were not disposed to meet Washington's wishes, Stimson ordered the entire fleet of his country to assemble in Hawaii by way of a demonstration.

Exercised Steadying Effect

In The Far Eastern Crisis he writes: "In such a situation the presence of the entire American fleet assembled at a port on the flank of any outbreak southward toward Hongkong, French Indo-China or the Philippines, undoubtedly exercised a steadying effect. It was a potent reminder of the ultimate military strength of peaceful America which could not be overlooked by any one, however excited he might be." It is true that he meant the adoption of all measures "short of the actual use of armed force"; but what nation, it may be questioned, would anticipate a war from the outset when it is to follow any policy? It is obvious that the economic sanction Stimson proposed and the naval demonstration he ordered, were, in the last analysis, provocative of war.

American policy toward East Asia was thus unquestionably one of intervention and coercion. For two reasons, however, the United States was barely kept out of the tragedy of war. First, there was no country in East Asia ready or disposed to oppose the American policy for maintaining the status quo. Secondly, the political structure of America made it possible to effect a sudden turn of diplomacy when the Government had pressed things too far. This was done, in Stimson's case, by the other political party coming into power as deus ex machina. In this sense, the traditional change of presidency after the maximum term of eight years enabled America to remain under the guise of a "peace loving country," which was not true.

We may draw upon history for instances showing what little compunction American statesmanship sometimes had in reversing or renouncing foreign of other policies. The intervention policy of William Seward was thrown overboard by the Grant administration. The policy pursued by Theodore Roosevelt was disowned by Taft. The unwise intervention policy adopted toward Manchuria by Secretary of State Knox of the Taft Government—an attempt to "smoke Japan out of her position of predominance," was in turn liquidated by the succeeding Wilson administration. The Stimson policy of 1931-32 was on principle succeeded by Franklin D. Roosevelt, who, as a matter of fact, had no intention of molesting the sleeping dog, for the time being at least.

Followed Predecessors

In the process of time, however, the Roosevelt administration went the way of its predecessors. Some American sholars had betime predicted that the Roosevelt policy would of necessity drive America into another war. Frank Simonds, for instance, observes in his America Faces the Next War: "Shall we be involved in the next war in Europe as were in the last? The answer must be in the affirmative. If Europe is plainly marching toward the next combat, American statesmanship is just as unmistakably following a course which must presently make American participation in the conflict inevitable. The reason is simple. Mr. Roosevelt's foreign policy is likely to get us into the next European war, because it is identical with Mr. Wilson's, which did get us into the last. In a word, in foreign affairs the New Deal is only Wilsonism in a fresh disguise."

(To Be Continued)

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES IN PHILIPPINES

'Calamay' Is Filipino Version of Japanese 'Ozoni'

By MOISES B. BAUTISTA
(Special to the Nippon Times)

Christmas is enjoyed by high and low in the Philippines as the nation's greatest joyful event. During the Yuletide season everybody is in holiday attire. Everyone is busy paying calls.

The anniversary of the Birth of Christ has this year a peculiar color and significance, because it is the first since the inauguration of the Independent Republic of the Philippines.

The Filipinos being mostly Christians, deep religious significance is attached to the commemoration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. On Christmas Eve, December 24, the midnight mass (Misa de Gallo) with its merry and joyful music is celebrated in all the Catholic churches in the islands. During the ceremonies the birth of Christ in a manger is enacted realistically. Christian temples are lavishly decorated during the Yuletide season. Lively and festive music with the accompaniment of castanets is sung joyously during the religious ceremonies of the season.

Every House Decorated

Every house is decorated inside and out, the same as in Japan during the New Year Celebration. Filipino homes are adorned with colorful and picturesque lanterns. The windows and doors are dressed with the best tapestry.

During the New Year Celebration in Japan the people eat the special dish of ozoni, while the Filipinos during Christmas have on their dining tables the delicious "calamay." This is similar to the Japanese "mochi." It is made up of a sticky and silvery variety of rice, coconut oil and sugar. In sharp contrast to the bread of the West, it is as compact as the Japanese "mochi." Every home in the rural communities of the Philippines has this Filipino delicacy during the Yuletide season.

Keeping up with the times, President Jose P. Laurel has discouraged the usual expensive exchange of Christmas gifts among the Filipinos in wartime Philippines. But there shall be the sending of Christmas cards and the interchange of greetings.

Family Solidarity Noticeable

Relatives make this occasion one of family reunion. During the Yuletide season the strong family solidarity in the Philippines can easily be noted. Young men and women, no matter how far they live from their families, usually go home to pay their respects to their parents and elders.

It is of interest to note that Western influences have not been able to destroy completely the strong family unity in the Philippines, especially in the remote towns and barrios. The Filipinos can legitimately take pride in having preserved from Western corruption this precious characteristic of Oriental peoples.

Newspapers publish during the Yuletide season special Christmas editions, while performances in theaters and stage shows have too their Christmas color.

For Filipino children Christmas is the happiest and gayest season of the year, because they receive then cash gifts and beautiful toys. Their parents buy for them new clothes and new shoes. And when they visit and pay their respects to their "ninong" (godfather or godmother), they receive precious gifts.

Christmas in the Philippines is the merriest season of the year for the young and the old.

Greater East Asia's Total War

Asiatic Nations Are Members of One Great Family in Addition to Being Autonomous Independent States

By IWAO MITSUDA
(From the Chuo Koron)

Part II

The principles of liberty and equality which formed the basis of modern democratic ideas have become only abstract conceptions. Man is not free and equal at his birth. Just the opposite is the case. It was an irony of history that the individuals which asserted their right of liberty and equality came to confront opposition and bondage and came to lose their very individuality under the system of uniformity which came into existence as a reaction to them. The significance of the conceptions of liberty and equality consists in the mission of eradicating the unnatural discriminations brought about by some artificial or social factors instead of inborn and unavoidable natural factors.

In Western ideas, the relations of the individual to the whole and those between the superior and the subordinate were regarded as an existence of mutual opposition; and as a result of this conception, the individual came to disregard the whole, on the one hand, and the protection of the whole was made at the sacrifice of the individual; so that no real order could be attained. Thus, the new order which is based on the unitary conception of life, and whole and the individual, and of the superior and the subordinate, is regarded as the epochal significance of a third solution. Moreover, such an order is nothing new in the Orient especially in Japan. It has always existed in our country as a tradition. For instance, the relations between the lord and his people during the feudal period were radically different from those in the Western feudal system.

Advocate Progressive View

In our own system we had the relations of mutual love, as against the relations of opposition in the case of the Western system. We should abandon the Western custom of regarding as barbarous everything that was connected with feudalism and of regarding as progressive everything that is democratic, for feudalism often had good points as democracy has many evil points. The question is not found in the forms of social or political systems but in their real substance. Feudal dictatorship had good elements that are lacking in the democratic system of government. For instance, the United States may boast of her democratic form of government, but in reality it is none other than a plutocracy. Just as truth is inmutable, so morality embodying justice and benevolence is an eternal principle of politics, which transcends time and space.

For upwards of three thousand years, our country has always had a moral government in which the sovereign showed utmost benevolence and the subjects an intense loyalty, although we had different forms of governments such as aristocracy, feudal government and modern constitutional government. In all these different form of government, the essence of the State life always remained the same. The government based on morality inevitably embodies highest ideals and religion. Thus, moral government consists in the unity of politics and religious worship. It is natural that so long as politics has as its highest ideal the actualization of the heavenly will on earth, it should be inseparably bound up with religious worship. In the West, politics and religion became separated because the modern Western democratic government having the mission of denying kingship also denied the concomitant divine rights. Thus, politics lost ideals, became a fixed system of administration and a means of economic exploitation in colonial enterprises. History shows how the Western nations in their course of colonial aggressions extending for a period of 300 years, denied the kingship in colonies in the false name of progress and civilization and skilfully imposed upon them a democratic form of government.

Restore Ideals, Religion

At the dawn of the Greater East Asian era, we should once again restore both ideals and religion to State life. Politics, above all, should have as its substance the most concrete and universal morality running through all the history of mankind. Prime Minister Ba Maw of Burma referred to Asia as "one great family," while Prime Minister Chang of Manchoukuo "pledged to maintain everlasting relations with one another under the conception that Greater East Asia is a single family showing reverence for blood relations which is a characteristic of our Oriental morality." We know that the order of mutual existence and prosperity is nothing but the order of the family, which centers around the head, its members having their respective stations therein. Now, the head of a family has not secured his position by the exercise of force, or by the power of money, or by the decision of a majority at the polls. He has been the head from the very inception. The social order centering around such a headship as an absolute entity is most natural and for this reason is worthy of the name of real order. The Japanese State, in which the Emperor is revered as "Father" and the subjects as "treasures" or children, must be a family. The extension of an order based on such an absolute system of family to other parts of Great East Asia will represent the real order based upon moral ideals. Thus, the notion that Greater East Asia is a family will have its perfect meaning.

So long as the moral order of Greater East Asia is based on the principle of the family, there should exist no system of rights or obligations therein. To say that the nations of Greater East Asia are the members of one great family in addition to their being autonomous independent States means that they are such as an unavoidable reality and not in respect to their rights and obligations. Such ideas as "mutual existence and prosperity" and "reciprocal friendship" and the like could bear fruit only at the perfect understanding of the above fundamental truth. It should be also remembered that morality as the basis of the new order shall be substantial rather than formal and shall be practical rather than conceptual.

It may be said by way of conclusion that the future success or failure of the construction of Greater East Asia will depend upon whether or not the nations composing it will realize their moral sentiments in their deeds and actions. When the nations have succeeded in establishing their common ideals on their heaven-sent materials and manpower and their entire potential resources are mobilized throughout the whole region to attain their concrete goals, then, it may truly be said that Greater East Asia is destined to become the final victor of the world.

(End)

Contemporary JAPANESE POEMS

By ASATARO MIYAMORI

(Ryutaro Kurosu (1868-)

Formerly a lawyer and M. P., Ryutaro contributed a great deal toward the enactment of manhood suffrage.

Japanese Chivalry

Nippon no Bushido wo miyo Tekihei no
Shigai uzumete Jujika wo tatsu.
Behold Japanese Chivalry!
Our warriors buried the corpses
Of enemy warriors and
Over their graves erected crosses.

Jiro Murano (1894-)

Jiro is a director of a certain Tokyo company and editor of a poetry magazine entitled "The Fragrant Orchid."

The Wrath of Men and Gods

Tami no ikari Kami no ikari to Moe-agari
Kegaretaru teki Yaki zo horobosu.
The wrath of all our countrymen,
The wrath of all the deities
Have fiercely blazed up, which are sure
To burn the filthy enemies.

Ritsu Kurokawa

A merchant of Kawasaki City, whose age in unknown.

The Mighty Sire's Shield

Bandai ni Tameshi naki yo wo Sumerogi no
Tate to yuku mi no Ohki sachi wamo.
It is a great blessing for me
To proceed to the battlefield.
During a reign most glorious in all ages,
As the Mighty Sire's honorable shield.

Juzo Kagoshima (1898—)

Juzo is a sculptor by profession but he is widely known as a poet.

The Great Nachi Waterfall

Tsuchi yusuhi Taki ochi kudaru Yama-naka ni
Ware no kokoro wo Ware dani shirazu.
Deep in a mountain where
Rolls down a cataract,
Shaking the earth, e'en I
Do not know my own mind, in fact.

Smitten by the grandeur of Nature, the poet is lost in a reverie.

N.B.—There are four waterfalls in Nachi, and the greatest of them is called "The Great Nachi Waterfall."

Fruits of Wisdom

A disagreeable smile distorts the lines of beauty, and is more repulsive than a frown.—Lavater.

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The love of reading enables a man to exchange the wearisome hours of life, which come to everyone, for hours of delight.—Montesquieu.